## Underground Injection Control (UIC) Rules

**OAR 340-044**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is Underground Injection Control?</th>
<th>340-044-0010</th>
<th>Requirements to limit and control injection of wastes into the subsurface to protect existing groundwater quality for current and future beneficial uses including use as a source for drinking water</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is an underground injection system?</td>
<td>340-044-0005(24)</td>
<td>A well, improved sinkhole, sewage drain hole, subsurface fluid distribution system or other system or groundwater point source used for the subsurface emplacement or discharge of fluids</td>
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| Injection System Classification | 340-044-0011 | • **Class I** – Hazardous and radioactive waste or fluid injection beneath groundwater  
• **Class II** – Fluids from natural gas or oil production or oil storage  
• **Class III** - Fluids used for mineral extraction  
• **Class IV** – Hazardous waste injection into or above groundwater  
• **Class V** – All others |
| How is underground injection controlled? | 340-044-0012 | An injection activity, including construction, modification, operation, and maintenance of an injection system, is not allowed unless it is:  
• “Excluded” from UIC regulation  
• Authorized by rule  
• Authorized by permit  
• Permits will not be issued if other treatment or disposal options are available to better protect water resources |
| What injection activities are “excluded” from UIC regulation? | 340-044-0013 | Single family residential septic systems and cesspools  
Non-residential septic systems and cesspools serving less than 20 people per day or with a design flow less than 2,500 gpd  
Natural gas storage  
Holes not used for subsurface emplacement of fluids |
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<tr>
<td>When is underground injection prohibited?</td>
<td>340-044-0014</td>
<td>If it causes groundwater contamination above background or levels allowed in OAR 340-040 or drinking water Maximum Contaminant Levels</td>
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<tr>
<td>340-044-0015(1)</td>
<td>If it is a Class I, II, III, or IV injection system (exceptions – oil or gas production; groundwater remediation)</td>
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| 340-044-0015(2) | If it is this type of Class V injection system injecting:  
- Sewage into cesspools (phase out by 4/5/2005)  
- Fluids from industrial/commercial processes using hazardous substances or petroleum products (exceptions with specific permit conditions)  
- Fluids from operation areas where hazardous substances or petroleum products are used or stored  
- Fluids directly from floor drains at industrial/commercial facilities  
- Motor vehicle waste from vehicle repair or maintenance  
- Industrial or municipal wastewater directly into groundwater  
- Agricultural drainage |
| 340-044-0015(3) and 340-044-0017 | If it injects sanitary, industrial or commercial waste into a sewage drill hole (some exceptions for use and repair of existing sewage drill holes) |
| What is required for authorization by rule? | 340-044-0018(1) | General Requirements  
- Owner/operator submits inventory information and registers the injection system  
- The injection does not have the potential to cause groundwater contamination  
- Owner/operator submits additional information as needed to determine the potential for groundwater contamination |
|  |  | No permit is required if injection is authorized by rule |
| What kind of injection can be authorized by rule? | 340-044-0018 (2), (3), (4) | • Treated groundwater as part of an approved remedial action (Class IV, Class V)  
• On-site sewage disposal systems for sanitary waste only (subject to OAR 340-071)  
• Low temperature geothermal return fluids  
• Non-contact heating or cooling fluid return  
• Reinjection of groundwater from dewatering activities  
• Storm water runoff from roof tops  
• Temporary injection for water well maintenance  
• Injection to control subsidence or salt water intrusion  
• Other storm water with additional *Basic Requirements* and *Category Requirements* for municipal, industrial/commercial, parking lot, residential injection  
• Other Class V injection on a case-by-case basis |
|---|---|---|
| What inventory information needs to be submitted? | 340-044-0020 | Facility name, location, owner, type and status of injection system  
Additional information may be required as specified on the registration form |
| When is inventory information submitted? | 340-044-0020(1) | Before construction and operation of a new injection system  
With permit application if authorized by a permit |
| What kind of underground injection needs a permit? | 340-044-0035 | Any allowable injection activity that is not excluded from UIC regulation or authorized by rule  
A permit is required before construction, maintenance, and operation |
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<th>What is required when an injection system is no longer in use?</th>
<th>340-044-0040</th>
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<td>Decommission or convert the injection system</td>
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<td>Notify DEQ 30 days prior to closure</td>
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<td>Comply with applicable decommissioning requirements based on injection system type and design.</td>
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<td>Certify proper decommissioning by a registered professional geologist, engineering geologist, or engineer (except for on-site systems and storm water from rooftops)</td>
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<td>Potentially contaminated injection systems may be required to submit a closure plan and report sampling results to DEQ</td>
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